

WE CLAIM:

1 A method for the directional attachment of a scale element of a position measuring system to an installation face of a first body, the method comprising:

aligning a scale element on an installation face of a first body parallel to a measuring direction via an adjustment device provided on a second body, which has a scanning head provided thereon and is movable in said measuring direction in relation to said first body;

attaching said aligned scale element to said installation face, wherein said adjustment device is in an alignment position with respect to said second body during said attaching; and

positioning said adjustment device into a position of rest with respect to said second body subsequent to said attaching, wherein said position of rest is different from said alignment position.

2. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein at said position of rest, said adjustment device remains on said second body.

3. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adjustment device comprises an adjusting leg, which in said alignment position is displaced closer toward said first body than in said position of rest.

4. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adjustment device is prestressed in either said alignment position or said position of rest.

5. The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said adjustment device is provided on said scanning head.

6. A device for the directional attachment of a scale element of a position measuring system to an installation face of a first body, comprising:

an adjustment device, which is provided on a second body that comprises a scanning head, which is movable in a measuring direction in relation to a first body that includes an installation face, by which a scale element is aligned on said installation face parallel with respect to said measuring direction; and

wherein said adjustment device is brought into an alignment position for aligning said scale element and, following attachment of said scale element, is moved into a position of rest with respect to said second body, which is different from said alignment position.

7. The device of claim 6, wherein said scale element comprises a scale.

8. The device of claim 6, wherein said scale element comprises a scale support.

9. The device of claim 6, wherein said scale element comprises a scale guide device.

10. The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein said adjustment device is integrated into said second body.

11. The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein said adjustment device comprises an adjusting leg for aligning said scale element, which is movable with respect to said second body.

12. The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein said adjustment device comprises a spring which prestresses said adjustment device in a direction of either said alignment position or said position of rest.

13. The device in accordance with claim 6, further comprising:
 - a first adjusting leg;
 - a second adjusting leg attached to said first adjusting leg, wherein said first and second adjusting legs are movably seated with respect to each other and with respect to said second body.
14. The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein said adjustment device is provided on said scanning head, which is a part of said second body, and that in said position of rest said adjustment device does not substantially increase the dimensions of said scanning head.